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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 SAJ-01 SS-15

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 FEA-01 OES-03 /087 W

----- 012413

R 211545Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2428

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ECON, UR

SUBJECT: 1975 FIRST SIX MONTHS PLAN RESULTS FOR SOVIET INDUSTRY

REF: A. MOSCOW 5523 B. MOSCOW 9924 (NOTAL)

1. CENTRAL STATISTICAL ADMINISTRATION (CSA) FIGURES ON JANUARY-JUNE 1975 PERFORMANCE OF SOVIET INDUSTRY PUBLISHED IN JULY 20 CENTRAL PRESS. OUTPUT GREW BY 7.7 PERCENT AND LABOR PRODUCTIVITY BY 5.9 PERCENT COMPARED WITH FIRST HALF 1974. CSA REPORTS CLAIMS EIGHTY PERCENT OF INCREASED PRODUCTION RESULT OF HIGHER LABOR PRODUCTIVITY. TOTAL LABOR FORCE INCREASED BY 2.4 PERCENT DURING PERIOD, REACHING AVERAGE LEVEL OF 100.7 MILLION WORKERS AND
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EMPLOYEES.

2. FOLLOWING SELECTED FIRST SIX MONTHS PRODUCTION STATISTICS,
TOGETHER WITH PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER COMPARABLE 1974 PERIOD,
ARE TRANSMITTED IN ACCORDNACE WITH EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING WITH
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH:

ELECTRICAL ENERGY: 513 BILLION KILOWATT HOURS; 106
OIL (INCLUDING GAS CONDENSATE): 240 MILLION TONS; 107
GAS: 141 BILLION CUBIC METERS; 111
COAL: 348 MILLION TONS; 102
(COKING COAL CATEGORY HAS BEEN OMITTED FROM PUBLISHED STATISTICS)
PIG IRON: 51.1 MILLION TONS; 104
STEEL: 69.8 MILLION TONS; 104
ROLLED METAL: 56.7 MILLION TONS; 105
(OF WHICH FINISHED METAL: 48.7 MILLION TONS; 104)
MINERAL FERTILIZERS (IN CONVENTIONAL UNITS): 44.0
MILLION TONS; 113
PLASTICS AND SYNTHETIC RESINS: 1.4 MILLION TONS; 112
CHEMICAL FIBERS: 464 THOUSAND TONS; 106
METAL-CUTTING MACHINE TOOLS: 111 THOUSAND UNITS; 103
(733 MILLION RUBLES: 110)
FORGE-PRESS MACHINES: 24.7 THOUSAND UNITS; 103
(189 MILLION RUBLES; 106)
INSTRUMENTS, MEANS OF AUTOMATION AND RELATED SPARE PARTS:
2,100 MILLION RUBLES; 112
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND RELATED SPARE PARTS: 1,300
MILLION RUBLES; 136
OIL APPARATUS: 86.6 THOUSAND TONS; 99
CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS: 330 MILLION RUBLES; 110
MAINLINE RAIL FREIGHT CARS: 34.7 THOUSAND UNITS; 97
AUTOMOBILES -- TOTAL: 973 THOUSAND UNITS; 108
OF WHICH: TRUCKS; 344 THOUSAND UNITS; 104 PASSENGER CARS;
596 THOUSAND UNITS; 110 BUSES; 33 THOUSAND UNITS; 111
TRACTORS: 274 THOUSAND UNITS; 104
AGRICULTURAL MACHINES: 1,853 MILLION RUBLES; 110
GRAIN-HARVESTING COMBINES: 47.7 THOUSAND UNITS; 116
PAPER: 2.6 MILLION TONS; 103
CEMENT: 60 MILLION TONS; 106
TEXTILES: 4,992 MILLION SQUARE METERS; 101
LEATHER FOOTWEAR: 356 MILLION PAIRS; 103
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MEAT (FROM STATE RESOURCES): 4.4 MILLION TONS; 108
BUTTER (FROM STATE RESOURCES): 694 THOUSAND TONS; 96
CANNED FOODS: 4.5 BILLION CANS; 109
TELEVISION SETS: 3.5 MILLION UNITS; 108
REFRIGERATORS: 2.8 MILLION UNITS; 104
WASHING MACHINES: 1.6 MILLION UNITS; 108
FURNITURE: 2,100 MILLION RUBLES; 108

3. BUTTER PRODUCTION IMPROVED SOMEWHAT DURING THE SECOND QUARTER, ALTHOUGH SHORTFALL OF 24 THOUSAND TONS, OR FOUR PERCENT, STILL EXISTS COMPARED TO FIRST-HALF 1974. OTHER AREAS WHERE PRODUCTION CONTINUED TO LAG BEHIND 1974 FIRST SIX MONTHS FIGURES INCLUDED (SHORTFALLS IN PARENTHESES):
SELF-PROPELLED EXCAVATING MACHINERY (22 UNITS);
COAL CLEANING COMBINES (25 UNITS)
LINEN TEXTILES (11.1 MILLION SQUARE METERS);
OUTER KNITWEAR (3.3 MILLION PIECES);
VACUUM CLEANERS (60 THOUSAND UNITS);
VEGETABLE OILS (100 THOUSAND TONS)
IN ADDITION DURING SECOND QUARTER PRODUCTION IN TWO OTHER AREAS FAILED REACH 1974 SIX MONTHS LEVELS: DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES (SHORTFALL 27,600 UNITS) AND FREIGHT CARS (SHORTFALL 1100 UNITS).

4. PRODUCTION IN CHEMICAL/PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES AND MACHINE-BUILDING/METALWORKING INDUSTRIES INCREASED 11 PERCENT AND 12 PERCENT, RESPECTIVELY, OVER LEVELS FOR JANUARY-JUNE 1974. IN CONTRAST PRODUCTION IN LIGHT AND FOOD INDUSTRIES CONTINUED TO GROW AT LOW RATES, REACHING 6 PERCENT AND 5 PERCENT RESPECTIVELY. SLIGHT IMPROVEMENTS IN RATE OF PRODUCTION, COMPARED WITH FIRST QUARTER PERFORMANCE (SEE REF A), REGISTERED IN AREAS OIL (240 MILLION TONS FOR 6 MONTHS), STEEL (69.0 MILLION TONS), MINERAL FERTILIZERS (44 MILLION TONS), PLASTICS (1.4 MILLION TONS), CEMENT (60 MILLION TONS), AND FABRICS (4.99 BILLION SQUARE METERS). PRODUCTION OF NATURAL GAS DROPPED SLIGHTLY, TOTALING ONLY 141 BILLION CUBIC METERS FOR SIX MONTHS COMPARED TO 71.3 BILLION CUBIC METERS FOR FIRST QUARTER.

5. ACCORDING CSA REPORT SALES (AS OPPOSED TO PRODUCTION) OF MOST FOOD AND CONSUMER PRODUCTS DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS 1975 EQUALED OR EXCEEDED SALES DURING COMPARABLE PERIOD 1974, WITH EXCEPTIONS FOR MARGARINE (ONLY 98 PERCENT) AND REFRIGERATORS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(95 PERCENT). IN SPITE OF INCREASED SALES IN MOST PRODUCTS, ARTICLE NOTES THAT CONSUMER DEMAND STILL NOT ADEQUATELY SATISFIED IN SEVERAL AREAS. OTHER SECTIONS CSA REPORT NOTE THAT PLANS FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS, AGRICULTURE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION OVERFULFILLED FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS PERIOD.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED IF STATISTICAL INFORMATION PROVIDED PARA 2 ABOVE STILL DESIRED AS STANDARD INPUTS TO PERIODIC REPORTS ON SOVIET ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDUSTRY, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, FINANCIAL DATA, QUARTERLY REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW10157
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750251-0919
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750737/aaaabhaz.tel
Line Count: 164
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 5523, 75 MOSCOW 9924
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1975 FIRST SIX MONTHS PLAN RESULTS FOR SOVIET INDUSTRY
TAGS: EGEN, ECON, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006